

## Message Text

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17

ACTION CPR-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 ABF-01 H-03 L-03 PER-05 A-01

M-02 SIG-04 RSC-01 DRC-01 /033 W

----- 019619

R 280916Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2022

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

VISIT BY GAO INSPECTOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEGN

SUBJ: GAO REVIEW OF FOREIGN GIFTS AND DECORATIONS

REF: A. STATE 146591; B. STATE 136038

1. GAO INSPECTOR MELVIN VAN HOUTEN FROM GAO FRANKFURT OFFICE VISITED EMBASSY JULY 22-24 ON GENERAL REVIEW OF EMBASSY PRACTICES WITH REGARD TO PROCEDURES CONNECTED WITH FOREIGN GIFTS AND DECORATIONS ACT. VAN HOUTEN INDICATED GAO UNDERTAKING INVESTIGATION AT REQUEST SENATOR SPARKMAN OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WITH ENDORSEMENT BY TWENTY OTHER SENATORS.

2. DURING VISIT VAN HOUTEN INTERVIEWED EXTENSIVELY IN EMBASSY INCLUDING ALL AGENCY HEADS, WITH EMPHASIS ON DETERMINING ANY GIFTS PRESENTED TO EMPLOYEES AND HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL VISITORS AND PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING SUCH. GAO INSPECTOR ALSO INQUIRED INTO GIFTS PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON AND TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. AFTER SCREENING, EMBASSY PROVIDED VAN HOUTEN WITH PERTINENT GIFT RECEIPTS AND SMALL NUMBER OTHER PERTINENT DOCUMENTS. (COPIES BEING POUCHED TO AMBASSADOR CATTO IN DEPARTMENT).

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3. GAO INSPECOR ASKED EMBASSY OPINION CONCERNING  
ADVISABILITY OF HIS CONTACTING GOJ WITH REGARD TO HIS REVIEW  
AND UPON RECEIVING EMBASSY VIEWS DISCOURAGING THOSE CONTACTS  
HE DID NOT PRESS THAT MATTER. UPON DEPARTURE VAN HOUTEN  
EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY COOPERATION AND  
INDICATED HIS SATISFACTION WITH EMBASSY PROCEDURES.

4. IN COMMENT ON PROBABLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING COM-  
PLETION WORLD-WIDE GAO REVIEW, VAN HOUTEN SUGGESTED THAT  
GAO MIGHT RECOMMEND EMENDING LAW TO FIX A TIME LIMIT  
(POSSIBLY THIRTY DAYS) FOR REPORTING FOREIGN GIFTS, AND  
POSSIBLY RAISING VALUE OF REPORTABLE GIFTS FROM \$50 TO  
\$100.  
PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974AMMAN04384  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION CPR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** A. STATE 146591; B. STATE 136038  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GAO REVIEW OF FOREIGN GIFTS AND DECORATIONS  
**TAGS:** OGEN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005